

Kempsey Parish Council – February 2026 Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: 11 February 2026

Location: Kempsey Community Centre

Key Decisions (Resolutions)

- **Minutes Approved** – January meeting minutes signed as a true and accurate record.
- **Dispensations Granted** – Cllr Clamp and Cllr Gardener granted dispensation to speak (but not vote) on Sunnyside Garage planning application.
- **Finance**
 - Payments authorised.
 - Clerk authorised to open a SumUp electronic money account.
 - Clerk authorised to transfer SumUp card payments to designated Parish Council bank account.
- **Energy Efficiency Project (Youth Centre, Plovers Rise)**
 - Clerk authorised to sign MHDC Legacy Grant Funding Agreement.
 - Clerk and Chairman authorised to accept approved tree surgery quotation.
- **Community Builder**
 - Service Agreement extended to **31 March 2026** (confidential item).
- **Planning Application M/26/00002/FUL (Sunnyside Garage)**
 - No objection in principle.
 - Formal concerns raised regarding:
 - Car parking layout and manoeuvring space.
 - Potential parking on Old Road South.
 - Noise assessment and mitigation.
 - Control of external lighting.
 - Boundary hedge/tree planting for visual mitigation.
- **SWDPR Main Modifications Consultation**
 - Clerk to submit comments (with guidance from Cllr Gardener) by 17.2.2026.

Deferred Items

- Adoption of the Kempsey Vision Report – to March agenda.
- Pavilion Security Policy – deferred; consensus to spend up to £3,000 on security upgrades.

Finance & Funding Updates

- Capital budget reviewed.
- Final 2026/27 budget noted.
- Multiple quotes received for:
 - Tree works (3)
 - Solar panels (5)

- Grant applications progressing; F&GP Committee to assess submissions (12 February).
 - £1,000 funding application submitted by County Cllr Allen to support Community Café.
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Project & Committee Updates

- **Pump Track**
 - Tender deadline extended to 23 February.
 - Evaluation period: 24 February – 6 March.
 - Potential public consultation on 28 February.
 - **Community Café**
 - Recruitment timetable circulated for information
 - Interview Panel appointed (Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Cllr Stevens, Cllr Plummer).
 - **Youth Centre**
 - Wi-Fi booster installed.
 - CCTV issues resolved.
 - Electrical condition report scheduled (March).
 - **Sports Pavilion**
 - Roof repairs required.
 - **Environment**
 - Awaiting Rocky Bridge grant decision (mid-March).
 - ROSPA playground inspection booked (March).
 - **Commons & Recreation**
 - Tennis Club upgrading lighting to LED.
 - Grass/pitch maintenance quotes being obtained.
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Governance & Communications

- Local Government Reorganisation consultation to be discussed in March for collective response (deadline 26 March 2026).
 - Kempsey Times submission deadline: 20 February 2026.
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Notable Public/External Updates

- Kempsey School oversubscribed; new school near Taylors Lane projected for September 2030.
- New dementia café launched in Upton (bi-weekly).
- Double yellow lines installed on Old Road North.
- Request submitted to extend Ford depth signage markings.
- Secondary school expansion plans confirmed; new high school project cancelled.